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ABSTRACT

A summary is presented of data available on graduate tuition and fees, numbers of graduate programs and degrees conferred, and residence and mobility of graduate and first-professional students in the 13 states that comprise the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. Graduate tuition levels in the 13 western states vary widely for both resident and nonresident students. The median resident tuition was $545 compared to a median nonresident tuition of $1,632. Despite these tuition barriers, large numbers of students do migrate to attend graduate and first-professional school. Only three states experienced a net out-migration of graduate students in Fall 1975. Only four states attracted more first-professional students than the number of their state residents attending first-professional schools in other states. The migration of graduate and first-professional students has not been the subject of policy research and evaluation from a regional perspective, nor has the impact of tuition rates been viewed from a regional planning perspective. Appendices provide 1977-78 graduate tuition and fees at public institutions in the west; Ph.D. programs available in six western states, number of doctoral degrees awarded, and average number of degrees awarded per program in 1975-76; and graduate enrollment at state universities and land grant colleges during the Fall of 1976 and 1977. (SW)

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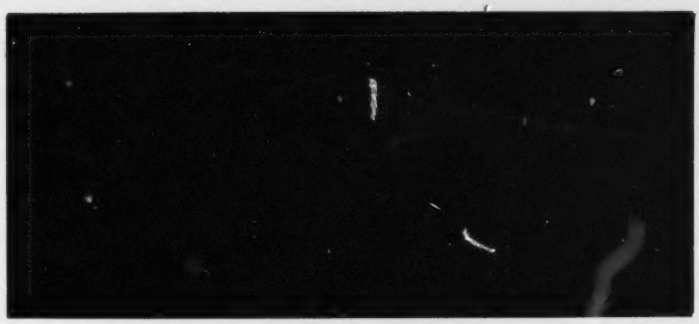
Project on Expanding Regional Cooperation in Graduate & Professional Education



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WICHE

Improving Education In The West

WICHE

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education is a nonprofit agency created in the 1950s by the governors and legislatures of the 13 western states. Through interstate sharing and research, WICHE helps states provide high-quality, cost-effective higher education to meet the human resource needs of the states and the education needs of the citizens. WICHE serves Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Project Intent

WICHE's project on Expanding Regional Cooperation in Graduate and Professional Education encourages resource sharing in graduate and professional education in the West by providing information about these programs throughout the region. The project is establishing an information system that will enable higher education decision makers to plan for the future of graduate and professional education from a regional perspective. The graduate education project is supported by a two-year grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and by WICHE state dues through its Student Exchange Program.

The project seeks to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of graduate education in the West so that both students and taxpayers are better served.

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RESIDENCE AND MOBILITY OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS IN THE WEST

Report 78-2

Prepared by
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September, 1978

Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
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HIGHLIGHTS

- Graduate tuition levels in the thirteen western states vary widely for both resident and nonresident students. Resident graduate tuition ranged from a low of 170 dollars to a high of 1166 dollars, a spread of 996 dollars. Nonresident tuition varied from 1028 dollars to 2736 dollars, a range of 1708 dollars.

- The median resident tuition was 545 dollars compared to a median nonresident tuition of 1632 dollars. These dollar differences between resident and nonresident graduate tuition represent considerable price barriers to many graduate students.

- Despite these tuition barriers, large numbers of students do migrate to attend graduate and first professional school. These numbers are greater, proportionally, from the smaller western states where graduate offerings may be limited.

- Only three states experienced a net out-migration of graduate students in Fall 1975, while only four states attracted more first professional students to institutions within their borders than the number of their state residents attending first professional schools in other states.

- The migration of graduate and first professional students has not been the subject of policy research and evaluation from a regional perspective, nor has the impact of tuition rates been viewed from a regional planning perspective.

RESIDENCE AND MOBILITY OF GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS IN THE WEST

This brief report contains a summary of data available on graduate tuition and fees, numbers of graduate programs and degrees conferred, and residence and mobility, that is, the in- and out-migration of graduate and first professional students in the thirteen states that comprise the WICHE region.

Context

In developing their systems of higher education, western states have attempted to achieve several goals: Access to postsecondary education for all students seeking it; diversity of programmatic and institutional choices; the efficient use of tax money; academic excellence appropriate to individual programs and institutions; and, responsiveness both to society's need for trained manpower and the need of the individual student for self development. In pursuing these goals, the states have understandably concentrated their efforts and resources on their own citizens. One result of this concentration has been to create price barriers to students from other states.

It is the goal of the WICHE Project on Expanding Regional Cooperation in Graduate and Professional Education to demonstrate that the reciprocal lowering of tuition in these states would facilitate both a freer interchange of students among states and an environment for cooperative interstate and interinstitutional planning with respect to graduate and professional education. The presentation and discussion of the data that follow should be viewed in this context. Regardless of the interpretations given, the data should prove informative and useful to the reader.

Price Barriers

Higher levels of tuition charged to out-of-state students often deter a prospective graduate student from entering an institution in another state, even when that institution could serve the student's need more effectively than one in his or her state of residence. Table 1 summarizes the graduate level tuition and fees charged resident and nonresident students at public institutions in the thirteen WICHE states; Appendix A lists the 1977-78 resident and nonresident graduate tuition for sixty-nine state universities in the western United States.

These exhibits illustrate the wide range of graduate tuition in the West. For 1977-78, resident tuition charges ranged from a low of 170 dollars at several California state colleges to a high of 1166 dollars at the University of Oregon, a spread of 996 dollars. Nonresident tuition charges varied from 1028 dollars at New Mexico Highlands University to 2736 dollars at the University of Washington and Washington State University, a range of 1708 dollars. Because of this range of tuitions, a graduate student might spend as little as 170 dollars per year to attend a program in his or her home state or as much as 2736 dollars to attend an out-of-state public institution--a difference of over twenty-five hundred dollars.

While these figures are not reflective of programmatic or institutional differences (and do not consider the additional element of private university offerings), they do reflect some of the economic considerations inherent in the student's choice of graduate programs. The median resident tuition among the sixty-nine institutions listed was 545 dollars and the mean was 546 dollars. In contrast, the median nonresident tuition was

Table 1

AVERAGE GRADUATE TUITION AND FEES

BY STATE, 1977-78

	Resident Tuition	Non-Resident Tuition	Difference (R - NR)
Alaska	$ 692	$1292	$ 600
Arizona	433	1560	1127
California			
State Universities & Colleges	193	1633	1440
University of California	754	2659	1905
Colorado			
University of Colorado/ Colorado State University	764	2509	1745
Others	600	1753	1153
Hawaii	550	1375	825
Idaho	410	1357	947
Montana			
Universities	580	1948	1368
Colleges	514	1522	1008
Nevada	642	1689	1047
New Mexico			
University of New Mexico/ New Mexico State University	518	1529	1011
Others	346	1040	694
Oregon	1155	1302	147
Utah	550	1418	868
Washington			
University of Washington/ Washington State University	740	2736	1996
Others	651	2256	1605
Wyoming	434	1400	966
Average for the Region			
Mean	546	1776	1147*
Median	545	1632	1047**

Highest Tuition

Resident--OREGON
Nonresident--WASHINGTON

Lowest Tuition

Resident--CALIFORNIA--State Universities and Colleges
Nonresident--OREGON

*i.e., the arithmetical mean of the differences among average resident and nonresident is $1147.

**One-half the states have differentials of $1047 or less.

1632 dollars and the mean 1776 dollars. Twelve institutions charged more than twenty-six hundred dollars for nonresident tuition and fees.

Consequences of Price Barriers

The desire of states to give priority to the educational needs of their own citizens is proper and fair. In addition, states face specific pressures motivating them to create price barriers. Among these are:

- The diminution of federal and other nonstate sources of financial assistance to and support for graduate students and institutions.

- Student demands for access and equity which have led to the expansion of graduate and professional programs.

- Professional licensing and certification requirements which require graduate-level continuing education, thus creating a demand for services.

- A stable, rather than expanding, resource base from which to accommodate these pressures leading, in many cases, to the implementation of policies restricting the enrollment of nonresidents.

Pressures giving rise to tuition surcharges for nonresidents may have the unintended consequence of contributing to unnecessary program development. As states simultaneously raise tuition barriers to nonresident students, out-of-state opportunities for their own students are similarly constrained. This means that access to certain programs may be severely limited for students unless those programs are offered in the student's home state. Thus,

each state is led to develop a comprehensive array of academic programs, including programs which are highly specialized and could be developed more efficiently on a regional basis. This situation may contribute to the development of more programs than are needed to meet regional needs.

This condition of possible program redundancy and duplication is suggested by the data in Appendix B, which aggregates the number of doctoral programs offered in six western states (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington) by broad subject areas. Reference to this table provides the reader with an indication of the number of doctoral programs which did not award any degrees in 1975-76 and the relatively low average number of degrees conferred per program. If these data are indicative of the situation throughout the region, then one might infer that a good deal of duplication does, in fact, exist. Table 2 shows the number of graduate degree programs in the thirteen western states and the number of master's degrees and doctorates conferred in 1975-76.

Residence and Mobility

Despite tuition barriers and the development of comprehensive postsecondary education systems in many states, large numbers of students do migrate from their home state to attend graduate or professional school. In smaller states, typically, opportunities for graduate and professional training are limited. In addition, many students choose to attend out-of-state private institutions because of their national or regional appeal and reputations. Table 3 depicts the basic data on residence and mobility of graduate and first professional students for fall, 1975, the most recent year for which

Table 2

GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE IN THE WEST, AND

NUMBER OF DEGREES CONFERRED, BY BROAD AREA, 1975-76

Broad Subject Area	Number of: Graduate Degree Programs in the Western United States	Master's Degrees Conferred 1975-76	Doctoral Degrees Conferred 1975-76
Agriculture and Natural Resources	191	777	190
Architecture and Environmental Design	66	515	16
Area Studies	105	188	32
Biological Sciences	325	922	728
Business and Management	248	6,021	156
Communications	90	310	45
Computer and Information Sciences	43	323	48
Education	480	9,453	1,322
Engineering	318	3,321	698
Fine and Applied Arts	254	1,311	115
Foreign Languages	256	529	155
Health Professions	218	1,987	91
Home Economics	97	284	12
Law	11	55	6
Letters	252	1,425	387
Library Science	18	1,030	11
Mathematics	77	475	187
Physical Sciences	266	969	758
Psychology	99	1,129	614
Public Affairs and Services	101	2,404	71
Social Sciences	381	2,289	902
Theology	34	195	123
Interdisciplinary Studies	137	210	65
TOTAL	4,067	36,129	6,732

Table 3

TOTAL GRADUATE AND FIRST-PROFESSIONAL STUDENT

RESIDENTS, THOSE ENROLLED IN-STATE AND OUT-MIGRANTS

BY STATE IN THE WICHE REGION, FALL 1975

States	Graduate Students				First Professional Students			
	(1) Student Residents*	(2) Students Remaining**	(3) Number of Out Migrants	Ratio of Students Remaining (2) to Student Residents (1)	(4) Student Residents*	(5) Students Remaining**	(6) Number of Out Migrants	Ratio of Students Remaining (5) to Student Residents (4)
Alaska	1,622	1,152	470	0.71	167	0	167	0.00
Arizona	14,176	12,501	1,675	0.88	1,595	797	798	0.50
California	164,339	150,909	13,430	0.92	24,057	19,416	4,641	0.81
Colorado	10,781	7,249	3,532	0.67	2,478	1,381	1,097	0.56
Hawaii	2,729	1,755	974	0.64	782	333	449	0.43
Idaho	3,535	2,543	992	0.72	620	186	434	0.30
Montana	2,832	1,870	962	0.66	575	147	428	0.25
Nevada	1,708	1,188	520	0.70	287	0	287	0.00
New Mexico	5,792	4,310	1,482	0.74	1,177	535	642	0.45
Oregon	9,840	7,574	2,266	0.77	2,793	1,984	809	0.71
Utah	6,095	4,708	1,387	0.77	1,438	784	654	0.55
Washington	10,851	7,297	3,554	0.67	3,334	1,803	1,531	0.54
Wyoming	759	305	454	0.40	360	119	241	0.33
TOTAL, WICHE States	235,059	203,361	31,698	0.87	39,663	27,485	12,178	0.69

*i.e., students whose residence by NCES definitions is the state listed.
**i.e., those students who remain in their home state.

SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics

data is available. The figures on the left hand side of Table 3 refer to graduate students and illustrate that, typically, one-quarter to one-third of each western state's residents who attend graduate school go out of state. California and Arizona are notable exceptions to this generalization in that only 8 and 12 percent of graduate students residing in these states attend school in other states. On the other hand, sixty percent of Wyoming residents who attend graduate school do so in other states. Thus, although the overall percentage of students in the West who attend graduate school in their home state is higher than the national average (87 percent versus 80 percent), graduate students residing in eleven of the thirteen states tend to be more mobile than their counterparts nationwide. This figure is weighted heavily by California's nearly 151,000 students remaining, a figure comprising three-fourths of the total for all thirteen western states.

Two planning issues need to be addressed: (1) whether present levels of mobility represent adequate access for western state graduate students, and (2) whether the lowering of tuition barriers would be justified by the resulting facilitation of interstate cooperation and resource sharing.

First professional students residing in the West tend to be even more mobile than their graduate student counterparts. The figures on the right-hand side of Table 3 indicate the number of first professional students (e.g., law, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, osteopathy, podiatry, chiropractic, theology, etc.) who reside in each state, the number who remain (i.e., attend school in their home state), and the number of out-migrants. These figures indicate that in seven of the thirteen states a

majority of professional students leave the state for training. These data attest, in part, to a limited number of openings in each state and the consequent high level of competition for places. Also, two states, Alaska and Nevada, offer no first professional training and several others offer training in very few fields. Only California and Oregon provide many more than half of the first professional places occupied by their residents.

These data, taken by themselves, do not necessarily indicate a dearth of opportunities and may, in fact, represent the reasoned policy of these states in providing funds for a mix of educational opportunities and other social priorities, while at the same time ensuring an adequate supply of trained practitioners. Many states have sought other mechanisms to provide places for professional students such as use of WICHE's Professional Student Exchange Program and specific bilateral agreements between states.

Table 4 offers another perspective on graduate and professional student migration by contrasting the number of student out-migrants with the number of students coming into the state and giving the net inflow or outflow for each state and the region. In most cases, WICHE states attracted more graduate students into their institutions than the number leaving, resulting in a positive net figure. The opposite was true for first professional students. In nine of the thirteen states, greater numbers of students left their home state, resulting in a negative net figure. These net figures for professional students may be indicative of two factors: First, the desire of professional schools, especially independents, to recruit a heterogeneous student body and, second, the dominant position of California's statistics (weighted, in part, by a significant number of students coming in through

Table 4

NET PATTERNS OF MIGRATION FOR GRADUATE AND FIRST PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS IN THE THIRTEEN WICHE STATES, FALL 1975

State	Graduate Students			First Professional Students			Net Graduate and Professional
	Out of	Into	Net	Out of	Into	Net	
Alaska	470	40	-430	167	0	-167	-597
Arizona	1,675	5,692	4,017	798	155	-643	3,374
California	13,430	25,510	12,080	4,641	5,665	1,024	13,104
Colorado	3,532	6,183	2,651	1,097	1,240	143	2,794
Hawaii	974	1,932	958	449	90	-359	599
Idaho	992	701	-291	434	94	-340	-631
Montana	962	817	-145	428	66	-362	-507
Nevada	520	800	280	287	0	-287	-7
New Mexico	1,482	1,717	235	642	68	-574	-339
Oregon	2,266	4,585	2,319	809	1,560	751	3,070
Utah	1,387	2,850	1,463	654	472	-182	1,281
Washington	3,554	5,670	2,116	1,531	1,741	210	2,326
Wyoming	454	714	260	241	94	-147	113
TOTAL, WICHE States	31,698	57,211	25,513	12,178	11,245	-933	24,580

SOURCE: National Center for Education Statistics

WICHE's Professional Student Exchange Program) and their influence on the totals for the region. Because of this latter fact, the reader is urged to review the data on a state by state basis.

These data indicate that, on the whole, graduate and first professional students in the West are more mobile than the class of graduate or first professional students taken as a nationwide group. Variations in state policy, and thus, opportunity for these students, exist within the region and among states. Yet, very few efforts are under way to address these issues and to recommend alternative policies and practices. The Project on Expanding Regional Cooperation in Graduate and Professional Education seeks to contribute to the effectiveness and efficiency of graduate-level education in the West by encouraging and facilitating resource sharing. Project activities include: (1) the development of a data base on graduate education and the capacity for analytic efforts to support planning, and (2) planning activities in six demonstration states to develop new patterns of cooperation and resource sharing at the graduate level.

This report and others forthcoming are intended to provide information on graduate education and to stimulate efforts at cooperation among states and institutions. The reader's comments, critiques, and suggestions are most welcome.

Appendix A

RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT GRADUATE TUITION

AND FEES AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE WEST,

BY STATE, 1977-1978*

State and Institution	Resident Tuition ($)	Non-Resident Tuition ($)	Difference ($)
ALASKA			
University of Alaska--Fairbanks	$ 692	$1292	$ 600
University of Alaska--Juneau Senior College	692	1292	600
University of Alaska--Anchorage Senior College	692	1292	600
ARIZONA			
Arizona State University	450	1640	1190
Northern Arizona University	400	1400	1000
University of Arizona	450	1640	1190
CALIFORNIA			
California Polytechnic State University-- San Luis Obispo	200	1640	1440
California State Universities:			
Bakersfield	194	1634	1440
Dominguez Hills	170	1610	1440
San Bernardino	194	1634	1440
Stanislaus	190	1630	1440
Pomona	192	1632	1440
Chico	201	1640	1439
Fresno	198	1638	1440
Fullerton	230	1670	1440
Long Beach	190	1630	1440
Los Angeles	190	1638	1448
Northridge	190	1630	1440
Sacramento	190	1630	1440
Humboldt State University	190	1630	1440
San Diego State University	188	1628	1440
San Francisco State University	184	1631	1447
Sonoma State College	170	1620	1450
University of California:			
Santa Cruz	803	2708	1905
San Francisco	791	2696	1905
Berkeley	770	2675	1905
San Diego	750	2655	1905
Los Angeles	750	2655	1905
Santa Barbara	743	2648	1905
Irvine	735	2640	1905
Riverside	729	2634	1905
Davis	719	2624	1905
COLORADO			
Adams State University	604	1434	830
University of Northern Colorado	572	1859	1287
University of Southern Colorado	618	1930	1312
Western State College	604	1790	1186
Colorado State University	727	2375	1648
University of Colorado	800	2642	1842
HAWAII			
University of Hawaii--Manoa	550	1375	825

*Source: American Association of State Colleges and Universities, Office of Government Relations; and National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, Office of Research and Information.

State and Institution	Resident Tuition ($)	Non-Resident Tuition ($)	Difference ($)
IDAHO			
Boise State University	$ 366	$1406	$1040
Idaho State University	410	1260	850
University of Idaho	534	1734	1200
Lewis-Clark State College	328	1028	700
MONTANA			
Eastern Montana College	519	1527	1008
Montana College of Mineral Science and Technology	516	1524	1008
Northern Montana College	485	1493	1008
Western Montana College	534	1542	1008
Montana State University	546	1914	1368
University of Montana	613	1981	1368
NEVADA			
University of Nevada--Las Vegas	756	1878	1122
University of Nevada--Reno	528	1500	972
NEW MEXICO			
New Mexico Highlands University	349	1028	679
Western New Mexico University	343	1051	708
University of New Mexico	514	1510	996
New Mexico State University	522	1548	1026
OREGON			
Eastern Oregon State College	1161	1308	147
Portland State University	1152	1299	147
South Oregon State College	1158	1305	147
Oregon College of Education	1127	1274	147
University of Oregon	1166	1313	147
Oregon State University	1164	1311	147
UTAH			
University of Utah	545	1420	875
Utah State University	555	1416	861
WASHINGTON			
Central Washington University	651	2256	1605
Eastern Washington University	651	2256	1605
Western Washington University	651	2256	1605
University of Washington	741	2736	1995
Washington State University	740	2736	1996
WYOMING			
University of Wyoming	434	1400	966
RANGE	$ 996 (170 to 1166)	$1708 (1028 to 2736)	$1849 (147 to 1996)
MEAN	$ 546	$1766	$1220
MEDIAN	$ 545	$1632	$1087

Appendix B

PH.D. PROGRAMS AVAILABLE IN SIX WESTERN STATES,* NUMBER OF DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF DEGREES AWARDED PER PROGRAM, 1975-76

	Number of Major Fields of Study at Institutions Within Six States	Number of Doctoral Degrees Awarded	Number of Programs Which Did Not Award Any Doctorates in 1975-76	Average Number of Degrees Conferred Per Program
Agriculture and Natural Resources	58	73	37	1.3
Architecture and Enviornmental Design	17	2	16	0.1
Area Studies	15	12	12	0.8
Biological Sciences	66	133	14	2.0
Business and Management	44	25	35	0.6
Communications	16	7	13	0.4
Computer and Information Sciences	12	5	10	0.4
Education	106	303	53	2.9
Engineering	80	70	48	0.9
Fine and Applied Arts	47	25	30	0.5
Foreign Languages	24	29	16	1.2
Health Professions	9	19	2	2.1
Home Economics	8	1	7	0.1
Letters	41	86	17	2.1
Library Science	2	3	1	1.5
Mathematics	15	37	2	2.5
Physical Sciences	74	157	25	2.1
Psychology	14	74	3	5.3
Public Affairs and Services	8	1	7	0.1
Social Sciences	77	149	18	1.9
Interdisciplinary Studies	7	11	0	1.2
TOTAL	740	1222	366 (49.4%)	1.65

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Earned Degrees Conferred, 1975-76.

*The six states are: Alaska, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington.

Appendix C

GRADUATE ENROLLMENT AT STATE UNIVERSITIES AND LAND-GRANT COLLEGES

FALL 1976 AND FALL 1977

	Fall 1976	Fall 1977	Percent Change 1976 to 1977
Alaska			
University of Alaska	N/A		
Fairbanks	245	277	13.1%
Arizona			
Arizona State University	8,786*	5,732	not computed
University of Arizona	6,377	6,864	7.6%
California			
University of California			
Berkeley	11,772	8,126	not computed
Davis	5,041*	2,943	not computed
Irvine	1,397*	1,335	not computed
Los Angeles	20,972*	8,047	not computed
Riverside	1,403	1,327	not computed
San Diego	4,633*	1,473	not computed
San Francisco	1,867*	720	not computed
Santa Barbara	4,395	1,913	not computed
Santa Cruz	4,251	349	not computed
Colorado			
Colorado State University	3,472	3,853	11.0%
University of Colorado			
Boulder	3,615	3,556	- 1.6%
Colorado Springs	394	452	14.7%
Denver	1,719	1,806	5.1%
Med Center	336	362	7.7%
Hawaii			
University of Hawaii			
Manoa	3,146	3,630	15.4%
Hilo	N/A	27	
Idaho			
University of Idaho	1,420	1,289	- 9.2%
Montana			
Montana University System			
East Montana		433	
Min. Science and Technology		20	
Montana State	580	539	- 7.1%
Northern Montana		125	
University of Montana	N/A	780	
Western Montana		162	
Nevada			
University of Nevada, Reno	862*	925	not computed
New Mexico			
New Mexico State University	1,384	1,313	- 5.1%
University of New Mexico	3,456	3,497	1.2%
Oregon			
Oregon State University	2,036	2,073	1.8%
University of Oregon	N/A	3,182	
Utah			
University of Utah	5,040	4,818	- 4.4%
Utah State University	1,122	1,178	5.0%
Washington			
Washington State University	1,973	1,993	1.0%
University of Washington	7,280	7,633	4.8%
Wyoming			
University of Wyoming	1,221	1,481	not computed

*Numbers of students determined on a different basis in 1976 than in 1977.

Source: Enrollment at State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, Fall 1976 and Enrollment at State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, Fall 1977, Office of Research and Information, National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

PROJECT ON EXPANDING REGIONAL COOPERATION IN GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

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* Demonstration States Coordinating Committee also includes asterisked Advisory Council member from each demonstration state.